



## POLICY MEMO

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<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>DISCONTINUATION OF TRAVEL TIME BILLING FOR PERSONAL CARE AND HOMEMAKER SERVICES (NON-IDD WAIVERS)</b>
<b>SUPERSEDES NUMBER:</b>	N/A
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b>	JANUARY 1, 2021
<b>DIVISION AND OFFICE:</b>	BENEFITS AND SERVICES, OFFICE OF COMMUNITY LIVING
<b>PROGRAM AREA:</b>	HCBS, PROVIDER BILLING, PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REQUESTS
<b>KEY WORDS:</b>	PERSONAL CARE, HOMEMAKER, TRAVEL TIME, HCBS, WAIVERS, ELECTRONIC VISIT VERIFICATION, EVV, PAR REVISION, CASE MANAGEMENT
<b>POLICY MEMO NUMBER: HCPF PM 20-008</b>	
<b>ISSUE DATE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2020</b>	
<b>APPROVED BY: COLIN LAUGHLIN</b>	

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*HCPF Memo Series can be accessed online: <https://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/memo-series>*

### **Purpose and Audience:**

The purpose of this Policy Memo is to inform Personal Care and Homemaker service providers in select non-IDD waivers and Case Management Agencies (CMAs) of a policy change for travel time billing, adjustment of current rates, and other information related to travel time billing for Personal Care and Homemaker services.

### **Background Information:**

The 21st Century Cures Act requires that state Medicaid agencies implement an Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) System for select Home & Community-Based Services (HCBS) and State Plan services.

Currently, providers may bill for travel time between member service visits under four Home and Community Based Waiver Programs: Brain Injury (BI); Community Mental Health Supports (CMHS), Elderly, Blind, and Disabled (EBD), and Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Waivers. With EVV implementation, providers must bill duration of service only, not travel time. As of January 1, 2021, travel time will no longer be permitted to be billed.

### **Next Steps:**

#### *Case Management Agency (CMA) Responsibilities*

Effective January 1, 2021, Personal Care and Homemaker services billing that are authorized for members enrolled in BI, CMHS, EBD, and SCI waivers, must not include additional units for travel time. CMAs will need to ensure all Prior Authorization Requests for impacted members are revised prior to the effective date to remove units allotted for travel time. The Case Management Unit will be providing further communication to CMAs regarding timelines for completing revisions and Department support available to identify and track the required work.

#### *Provider Responsibilities*

Beginning January 1, 2021 providers may no longer bill the Department for travel time units. The Department understands that the discontinuation of travel time billing practices may impact provider revenue and potentially create access to care issues for members. Therefore, the Department has increased rates to account for the discontinuation of this practice for Personal Care and Homemaker services for the HCBS BI, CMHS, EBD, and SCI waivers to mitigate the impact.

Starting January 1, 2021, the new 15-minute unit rate for Agency-Based Personal Care and Homemaker services for BI, CMHS, EBD, and SCI waivers will increase to coincide with the Federal EVV mandate.

<b>Personal Care Rate</b>	<b>07/01/2020</b>	<b>01/01/2021</b>
Members residing in the city and county of Denver	\$4.93	\$6.04
All other members	\$4.93	\$5.29
<b>Homemaker Service Rate</b>	<b>07/01/2020</b>	<b>01/01/2021</b>
Members residing in the city and county of Denver	\$4.93	\$6.04
All other members	\$4.93	\$5.29

The Department will be holding a stakeholder meeting to discuss the new rates and amendments to the Personal Care and Homemaker services rules, 10 CCR 2505-10 Sections 8.489 and 8.490. Meeting information:

September 8, 2020 - 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. MST

Webinar Call-in Information:

Local: 720-279-0026 / Toll Free: 1-877-820-7831

Participant Code: 982280#

Webinar link - <https://cohcpf.adobeconnect.com/evvtravel/>

The Department will present the rule revisions to the Medical Services Board on October 9, 2020 for an effective date of December 30, 2020. These new rates will go into effect on January 1, 2021.

**Attachment(s):**

None

**Department Contact:**

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